F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896-1940)

- **Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald**
- **Born:** September 24, 1896 (Saint Paul, Minnesota, U.S.)
- **Died:** December 21, 1940 (aged 44) (Hollywood, California, U.S.)
- American novelist, essayist, short story writer and screenwriter.
- He was best known for his novels depicting the flamboyance and excess of the Jazz Age—a term he popularized. During his lifetime, he published four novels, four story collections, and 164 short stories.
- Fitzgerald's feelings for Zelda were at an all-time low, and he remarked to a friend, "I wouldn't care if she died, but I couldn't stand to have anybody else marry her."

- 'It was an age of miracles, it was an age of art, it was an age of excess, and it was an age of satire.'
  —F. Scott Fitzgerald in "Echoes of the Jazz Age" (1931)
- Fitzgerald's ephemeral happiness mirrored the societal giddiness of the Jazz Age, a term which he popularized in his essays and stories. He described the era as racing "along under its own power, served by great filling stations full of money."
- On October 26, 1921, Zelda gave birth to their daughter and only child Frances Scott "Scottie" Fitzgerald.
- According to Professor John Kuehl of New York University: "If you want to know about Spain, you read Hemingway's The Sun Also Rises. If you want to know about the South, you read Faulkner. If you want to know what America's like, you read The Great Gatsby. Fitzgerald is the quintessential American writer."
- Gatsby remains Fitzgerald's most influential literary work as an author. The publication of The Great Gatsby prompted poet T. S. Eliot to opine that the novel was the most significant evolution in American fiction since the works of Henry James.
- Charles Jackson, author of The Lost Weekend, wrote that Gatsby was the only flawless novel in the history of American literature.
- The Great Gatsby is now hailed by some literary critics as the "Great American Novel".

- **He finished four novels:**

  - This Side of Paradise (1920)
  - The Beautiful and Damned (1922)
  - The Great Gatsby (1925)
  - Tender is the Night (1935)
- A Fifth, unfinished novel The Love of the Last Tycoon published posthumously.
- **Important Works of Fitzgerald:**

  1. This Side of Paradise (1920) [Title is taken from the Rupert Brook's Tiare Tahiti]
  2. The Beautiful and Damned (1922)
  3. The Great Gatsby (1925) : Magnus Opus

  Narrator - Nick Carraway, a Yale Graduate and WW1 veteran from Midwest. In this book Fitzgerald invented the term "Jazz Age", a period in the 1920's ending with great depression.

  4. Tender is the Night (1934) [Title is taken from John Keat's "Ode to Nightingale "]

➢ ***Novellas:***	➢ ***Short Stories:***
1. The Rich Boy (1926)	1. Tales of the Jazz age (1922)
2. The Diamond as big as the Ritz (1922)	2. All the Sad young Men (1926)

- **Selected works:**
  - (1920) This Side of Paradise
  - (1920) "Bernice Bobs Her Hair"
  - (1922) "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button"
  - (1922) The Beautiful and Damned
  - (1922) The Diamond as Big as the Ritz
  - (1922) "Winter Dreams"
  - (1925) The Great Gatsby
  - (1931) "Babylon Revisited"
  - (1934) Tender Is the Night
  - (1941) The Last Tycoon

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